



Chancellor's Report

Chancellor John Pugh

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December 2011 Meeting

UAS Creates First University of Alaska Workforce Credential

The University of Alaska Southeast (UAS) Center for Mine Training has created the University of Alaska's first formal "Workforce Credential"—a non-credit credential focusing on Entry Level Production Miner training. Chancellor John Pugh approved the credential, which was developed in partnership with local mines and the UA's Mining and Petroleum Training Service. This is the first such credential approved anywhere in the university system. "This new workforce credential enables Alaskans interested in mining careers to get the required entry level safety and mine orientation training that will make them more competitive candidates for jobs in the mining industry," said Mike Bell, Director of the UAS Center for Mine Training. A major focus is on Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) training and personal certification, knowledge of basic mining terminology and practices, and use of both simulated and actual equipment used in underground mining. The entire program for the credential involves 240 hours, working with certified instructors.

The new credential enables UAS to formally recognize successful completion of this program, parts of which have been offered in recent years. "This credential brings together the interests and resources of the university, industry, Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, and others to provide an excellent entry level training program," said Director of the UA Mining and Petroleum Training Service Dennis Steffy. "We've been working for years to see this come together."

UAS at GeoFest

Environmental Science faculty Eran Hood and Sanjay Pyare helped bring GeoFest to the Glacier Visitor Center on Sat. Nov. 12 as part of Geography Awareness Week. Aerial photographs and satellite images engaged middle school youth in a "Do you know Juneau?" quiz. Other experiential geography activities included glacial retreat comparisons using historic photos and a nametag activity that helped participants identify and learn the Tlingit place names of their home areas.

Hood Represents Alaska Climate Science Center at National Meeting

Environmental Science department chair Eran Hood traveled to Denver October 17-18 to represent the Alaska Climate Science Center at the Climate Science Center Advisory Board national meeting. Alaska's Center is one of eight regional climate centers established by the US Department of the Interior to better understand landscape stressors related to climate change and to help develop adaptive tools and strategies for regional resource managers.



Nora Dauenhauer Receives Ecotrust Indigenous Leadership Award

Former adjunct faculty of Alaska Native Languages Nora Marks Dauenhauer has been named a 2011 honoree recipient of the Ecotrust Indigenous Leadership Award. The Ecotrust mission is to inspire fresh thinking that creates economic opportunity, social equity and environmental well-being. According to an article on the Portland non-profit's website, she was named one of five finalists for her decades of work as an internationally recognized linguist, responsible for significant fieldwork, transcription, translation, and explication of Tlingit oral literature. Her books, articles, and plays are read and performed both near and far. Her work has earned her numerous awards and an honorary Doctor of Humanities from the University of Alaska Southeast. For the full article, including examples of Nora's poetry, go to: www.ecotrust.org/indigenousleaders/2011/nora_dauenhauer.html.

Wall on UA Press Advisory Board

Assistant Professor of English Emily Wall was in Fairbanks November 2-4 to participate in the annual meeting of the University of Alaska Press Advisory Board. Emily serves on the board of eight advisors for the non-profit publisher and distributor that represents the entire University of Alaska system.

Marine Biology Faculty Heidi Pearson and Jan Straley to Attend Florida Conference

Marine Biology faculty Heidi Pearson and Jan Straley attended the 19th Biennial Conference on the Biology of Marine Mammals in Tampa, FL, Nov. 27-Dec. 2. Heidi gave a talk on her dusky dolphin research entitled: "Managing for robustness: potential effects of climate change and mussel farming on dusky dolphins (*Lagenorhynchus obscurus*) in Admiralty Bay, New Zealand." Jan presented on her collaborative humpback whale research entitled: "A comparison of the diet, habitat use, and impact of humpback whale predation upon three overwintering herring populations in the Gulf of Alaska".



Politics of Climate Change Forum Held at UAS Egan Building

The keynote speaker for the 2011 Juneau World Affairs Council forum presented an Evening at Egan lecture on Friday, Nov. 11 at the Egan Library. "Is Long-term Climate Policy Politically Feasible?" was the title of the talk by Detlef F. Sprinz of the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research. The forum brought together international experts on climate change and the threat of water shortages, human rights concerns and international security.

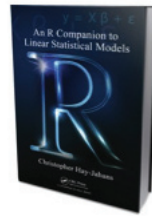
Sprinz is a Senior Scientist with the Research Domain "Transdisciplinary Concepts & Methods" of PIK—Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research, a Professor with the Department of Economic and Social Sciences at the University of Potsdam, Germany, and Chairman of the Scientific Committee of the European Environment Agency, Copenhagen. In his talk Sprinz explored: What is the capacity for democratic institutions to respond to science? How can governments pursue long-term policies that impact large segments of society, where delay or failure to act prevents a return at least to the present state?

The forum opened with a Thursday evening panel moderated by UAS Provost Rick Caulfield. Setting the Stage featured four scientists on the current state of the science of climate change and the contrarian view: Brendan Kelly, Deputy Director of the Arctic Research Division of the National Science Foundation; Terry Chapin, one of the nation's leading ecologists and the only Alaskan appointed to the National Academy of Sciences; Patrick Michaels, Senior Research Fellow for Research and Economic Development at George Mason University and Syun-Ichi Akasofu, International Arctic Research Center founding director (UAF). The JWAC forum ran through Sunday, November 12.

Artist Nicholas Galanin Presents at Evening at Egan Lecture Series

The Evening at Egan Fall Lecture Series concluded November 18 with a presentation by renowned Sitka Native artist Nicholas Galanin. The presentation came at a busy time for Galanin. A solo exhibition of his work opened November 15 at the Toronto Free Gallery. His art work is part of "Kindred Spirits, Native American Influences on 20th Century Art," now on exhibit at Peter Blum's Soho location in New York City and featured in the recently published book, *Shapeshifting: Transformations in Native American Art* (ed. Karen Kramer Russell).

Hay Jahans Textbook Published



The Associate Professor of Mathematics developed the book to supplement his statistics courses.

Christopher Hay-Jahans textbook, "An R Companion to Linear Statistical Models" was published by Taylor & Francis. This book includes extensive and carefully explained examples of how to write programs using the R programming language. These examples cover methods used

for linear regression and designed experiments with up to two fixed-effects factors, including blocking variables and covariates. The Associate Professor of Mathematics developed the book to supplement his statistics courses.

Tamone Invited to Serve on a National Science Foundation (NSF) Panel in Washington DC, October 26-28.

Professor of Biology Sherry Tamone was invited to serve on a National Science Foundation (NSF) panel in Washington DC, October 26-28. The panel of ten biological scientists read and reviewed more than sixty NSF science proposals with respect to intellectual merit and broader impacts.

Federal Grant to Research Tlingit Language Recordings.

The \$150,000, two-year grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services will allow the Sealaska Heritage Institute to migrate more than one hundred recordings of people speaking Tlingit from an old format to a digital format, said SHI Archivist Zachary Jones. Recordings with the potential to aid language students and educators will be placed online. The grant will also fund an internship program between SHI and the University of Alaska Southeast, allowing undergraduate students studying Tlingit language to become involved in the project. The project includes the migration of the recordings into a digital format that will make them more accessible to modern-day Native language students and scholars. A sharing partnership will be established with the University of Alaska Fairbanks' Alaska Native Language Archive.